

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0008] of the substitute specification with the following amended paragraph:

**[0008]** This and other objects and advantages are achieved by the method and apparatus according to the invention, in which the driver warning is triggered if a predefined warning condition is fulfilled, based on the instantaneous driving situation of the vehicle and a predefined emergency braking deceleration. In this case, automatic emergency braking process is triggered when a predefined warning time period (for avoiding a rear end collision of the vehicle with the vehicle traveling in front and/or for reducing the consequences of an accident when a rear end collision is unavoidable) expires. The ~~prupose~~ purpose of this process is to attain (after the automatic emergency braking process has finished) a predefined target relative speed and/or a predefined target safety distance between the vehicle and the vehicle traveling in front.